



### Valdez-Cordova Area

The City of Valdez has a population of approximately 4,000 people. It is located on a deep water port of Prince William Sound. The Richardson Highway, which is open year round, ends in Valdez and connects the town to the rest of the Alaska road system.

The average snowfall is 300 inches annually. Nearby, in the mountains, it averages 600 to 900 inches. The area is home to numerous glaciers and glacier streams.

### EWP at the End of the Road

The City of Valdez needed to protect the Prince William Sound regional emergency broadcast tower from falling into the Valdez Glacier Stream. The Natural Resources Conservation Service, through the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program, had a solution: a training dike.

A jökulhlaup, a sudden glacial-lake outburst flood, forcibly shifted the course of the Valdez Glacier Stream channel, causing severe erosion on the streambank adjacent to the tower. To secure the streambank, a 2,100 feet-long training dike was built with 17,500 cubic yards of earthfill and 15,600 cubic yards of riprap.

Cultural resources were closely monitored throughout the project because construction took place near the original Valdez town site. The old town was destroyed by a tsunami generated by the 1964 Good Friday earthquake.

Contract cost: \$1.3 million (locally awarded contract)

Photos: Riprap placed along the training dike of the Valdez Glacier Stream.

